

42 6 ²⁸102. (Thrice Amended) The method of claim ²³99 wherein the return electrode is an outer tubular member defining an axial passage between the outer surface of the probe and the inner surface of the outer tubular member, the delivering step including directing the electrically conductive fluid through the axial passage to the distal end of the probe over the [active] electrode terminal.

D3 43 ²³156. (Amended) The method of claim ²³178 further comprising generating a voltage gradient between the active electrode [terminal] and tissue at the target site, the voltage gradient being sufficient to create an electric field that causes the breakdown of tissue through molecular dissociation or disintegration.

28 157. (Twice Amended) The method of claim [138] ²⁷142 wherein the active electrode is located on the distal end of a probe, and wherein the delivering step comprises supplying the electrically conductive fluid to a proximal end of an axial lumen within the probe and directing the fluid through a distal end of the axial lumen to the active electrode.

54 56 158. (Twice Amended) The method of claim [138] further including positioning a distal end of a fluid supply shaft adjacent the active electrode, the delivering step comprising directing the electrically conductive fluid through an inner lumen in the fluid supply shaft that is electrically connected to the return electrode and discharging the fluid through an open distal end of the supply shaft towards the active electrode.

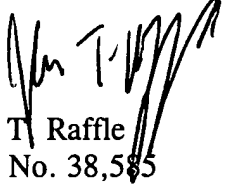
REMARKS

Claims 80, 81, 83-102 and 138-158 are pending. Claims 90, 102 and 156-158 have been amended to address the Examiner's §112 concerns. Claim 159 has already been canceled. Applicant believes that all claims are now in condition for allowance. If the

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Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application,
please telephone the undersigned at 408-736-0224.

Respectfully submitted,



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